

# James W. Wallace Jr.

GARY

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Contact Neighbors Editor Andrew Steele at 648-3099 or asteele@post-trib.com.



## NEIGHBORS

### GET UP AND GO!

#### GARY

**Brothers' Keeper first fun-fund walk-athon:** Brothers' Keeper will have its first 3K fun-fund walk-athon at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 22, at 15th Avenue and Madison Street. Registration starts at 7 a.m., followed by opening remarks and warmup at 7:30. Vendors are needed. For more information, call 882-8389 or 944-9695, or Brothers' Keeper at 882-4459.

#### GARY

**Fashion show and hair competition:** The John Will Anderson Boys & Girls Club of Gary will host its annual fashion show and hair competition from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday at the Genesis Convention Center, 4th Avenue and Broadway. Call Al Dixon at 805-6212 or Suzette Raggs

## IN NEIGHBORS COMMUNITIES



James Wallace, president of the local Student African American Brotherhood chapter, mows grass at a vacant home along 35th Avenue in Gary. Every year, the group cuts grass, cleans alleys and picks up debris around the city. This year, they worked along 35th from Broadway to Martin Luther King Drive. —LESLIE ADKINS/POST-TRIBUNE

the annual fundraiser a success.

#### GARY

**Fish fry:** The women of Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 1831 Virginia St., will have their annual spring fish fry, featuring catfish, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. Donation is \$8.

#### EAST CHICAGO

**Vendors, entertainment sought:** I Too Sing America Organization of Northwest Indiana is looking for vendors, vocalists, bands, clean rappers, dancers and comedians for its third annual National Black Music Heritage Parade and Festival. The event will run from noon to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at Washington Park in East Chicago. Vocalists and bands are requested to submit a CD or tape to ITSA, 3901 Guthrie St., East Chicago, IN 46312. For vendor information, call Tia at 902-9413 or Stacy at 397-3734. For entertainment information, call Dianna at 455-8230.

#### VALPARAISO

**Medicare update:** Paul Sciarra of Bartholomew & Son will discuss the new Medicare changes at 1 p.m. Friday at Village Park Enrichment Center at Banta, 605 Beech St. To register, call 462-1301.

# Caring for the community

## Student group adopts Gary cleanup as Earth Day activity

BY LISA DENEAL

Post-Tribune correspondent

For the second year, members of the Student African American Brotherhood chapter at Indiana University Northwest and Ivy Tech Community College donned work gloves and picked up garbage bags and rakes Saturday for their annual Earth Day cleanup.

This year, they concentrated on 35th Avenue between the IUN and the Ivy Tech campuses in Gary.

SAAB was founded in 1990 and has more than 200 chapters at colleges and universities, high schools and middle schools in 39 states. The group's purpose is to increase the number of African-American and Latino men graduating from college by creating a positive peer commu-

nity. Its members are encouraged to excel academically, socially, culturally, spiritually and in the community.

Students from the IUN and Ivy Tech campuses, plus volunteers from the community, spent the day picking up debris and junk along 35th Avenue from Broadway to Martin Luther King Drive.

SAAB president and IUN graduate James Wallace of Evanston, Ill., said SAAB has 50 members, and most participated in the cleanup.

"The members are also students at either Ivy Tech or IUN," Wallace said, "and we are a pretty racially diverse group, despite the organization's title having 'African American' (in it). It is also about brotherhood."

He added that along with Ivy Tech and IUN's participation, the city of Gary helped with dumpsters and extra equipment.

"The Weed and Seed program contributed and also had volunteers come," he said, "and others decided to join us."

IUN student Darin Dunham of Gary is the chairman of SAAB's community service committee. He said he always has been active in community service with fellow SAAB members.

"I've coached for Biddy Basketball and, when the 2008 flood happened, we cleaned out the basements of homes of the elderly in our city," Dunham said. "SAAB exposes students to what is needed in the community, and community service

is a valid need."

SAAB member and IUN student Jeremy Blake, 19, of Valparaiso said he joined the group two years ago and is chairman of the academic committee.

"It feels good to do the cleanup in this area, and the residents appreciate it, too," he said. "We have had residents come out and do yard work when they see us, and one neighbor gave us cold drinks."

Jason Arndt, a student at Ivy Tech's Gary campus, said he brought three of his children to help clean up.

"I participated in the cleanup last year," he said. "It is our responsibility as people to keep the land clean. This is God's Earth, his creation, and we should take care of it."

"It feels good to do the cleanup in this area, and the residents appreciate it, too."

**We have had residents come out and do yard work when they see us, and one neighbor gave us cold drinks."**

JEREMY BLAKE OF VALPARAISO, A MEMBER OF THE STUDENT AFRICAN AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD, HELPING TO CLEAN UP ALONG 35TH AVENUE IN GARY.

# Phoenix

INDIANA UNIVERSITY NORTH

May 5, 2010

## SAAB Takes Out the Trash



Members of SAAB, Donald Luckett Sr. (left) and Bobby Marsh work together to clean along Gary's 35th Avenue.

By John Norris

Imagine looking out behind your house one night. You live in Gary, less than a mile away from campus. You see a mound of trash in the alley behind your yard. Despite keeping a clean yard and a cheery disposition about your neighborhood, that 8-foot-high pile of garbage glares at you every night when you go to sleep. Imagine now that you wake up the very next morning and look out your window to find 20-30 random strangers cleaning up this pile of garbage and they stay there for hours until the job is done. It may not make the neighborhood safer, it may not help pay the bills, but at least you don't have to look at that damn pile of trash every night before you go to sleep.

This could have been the reality for some citizens of Gary on the morning of April 24th. The Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), partnered with Brother 2 Brother, had their 2nd Annual Cleanup in honor of Earth Day. The City of Gary pitched in by providing dumpsters, IU Northwest provided supplies and Ivy Tech supplied food for the workers.

Bright and early at 8 a.m., SAAB members started on 35th Avenue, by IU Northwest's cam-

pus and moved all the way down 35th until they reached Ivy Tech's campus. The work that they had planned to do was done by 11 a.m. and everyone took a midday break to eat at Ivy Tech. After finishing their grilled energy boost, SAAB members proceeded to the gas station at the intersection of 35th and Georgia Street.

That was where they met their major challenge for the day, an alley overloaded with trash. There were small piles along the fence line the whole length of the alley, and to top it off, there was a monstrous trash pile that seemed to contain enough stuff to fill an entire house. Couches, mattresses, children's toys, wood, mirrors, glass and shelving all heaped into a soaking wet, (it had rained the night before) disgusting eyesore. The SAAB members looked at each other and someone muttered, "When's the backhoe getting here?" I thought this was a joke, but after a half an hour of picking up smaller debris a giant dumpster was dropped in the parking lot of the gas station. Then a few minutes later a woman drove a backhoe into the alley like a proverbial knight in shining armor.

Even with the backhoe, it took a considerable amount of effort

on everyone's part to clean up the alley. Amidst the labor, the SAAB members plotted how to make such events bigger and better. Bobby Marsh said, "There's 500 churches in Gary. Even if we just get ten people out from every church in Gary, we'd have 5,000 people to do this." Other members agreed saying, "We could have this done in a day for the whole city." As the day wore on, a few citizens of Gary showed up and put work gloves on to pitch in for the effort.

After the day was concluded, the entire group gathered around Dr. Coopwood, the Director of the Office of Diversity and Equity. Dr. Coopwood addressed all the men and women there saying, "We are the best chapter in SAAB. We just recently won an award that proves that, and days like today are just exactly why. You came together and you made a difference in this community. I'm so proud of the chapter that we have here at IUN." After a quick prayer, SAAB officially ended their day. As usual, that did not mean a total end. For at least 45 minutes smiling faces and laughing men stayed in the parking lot. Talking, sharing, laughing and planning for another day of service.

## More Budget Cuts

By Don Sjoerdsma

*IU Northwest's baseball program renewed, and the Northwest Phoenix schedule cut by half in conjunction*

Due to shortfalls in the budget, the Office of Student Life and Athletics is making cuts. The Office of Athletics declares its membership to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) for their volleyball and basketball teams, however, they will not do so for the baseball program. The NAIA, whose goal is the development of students through athletics, is a way of legitimizing an organization as a common ground for competitors to compete in national tournaments.

Director of Student Life and Athletics, Dr. Coopwood, said, "The elimination of baseball was designed to begin to address the budget. Although no official decision has been made, the Phoenix newspaper, the Phoenix, will likely be cut. The Phoenix has been in operation for more than 10 years but it has been in the past year previously paid for their own compensation. It is possible they will be a step down."

To coincide with the launch of the new newspaper, the Phoenix may also be cutting the publication of the Phoenix.

# James W. Wallace Jr.

Members of the 2010 SAAB Gary Community Clean Up Team



I-LLID Fellow James Wallace



Members of the 2009 SAAB Gary Community Clean Up Team

# James W. Wallace Jr.

October 20, 2009

For Immediate Release

RE: First Annual Minority Male Empowerment Summit

On October 15 and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 members from the Northwest Indiana joint chapter of the Student African American Brotherhood/Brother 2 Brother (SAAB/B2B) travelled to the IUPUI campus in Indianapolis, IN to attend the First Annual Minority Male Empowerment Summit. The following members were in attendance:

Dr. Ken Coopwood, Director of Diversity and Equity & Assistant to the Chancellor  
Alan Roger Currie, SAAB/B2B Coordinator, IU Northwest  
Joe Goodman, SAAB/B2B Graduate Assistant, IU Northwest  
James Wallace, SAAB President, Northwest Indiana Chapter, IU Northwest  
David Neal, Student Activities Chairman, IU Northwest  
Kehinda Pryor, Secretary, Ivy Tech Community College, East Chicago Campus  
Henry Powell, SAAB/B2B member IU Northwest  
Brandon Thomas-Pleasant, SAAB/B2B mentor IU Northwest

The First Annual Minority Empowerment Summit is the brainchild of **James E. Garrett, Jr.**, the Executive Director of the Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males and **Phillip Seabrook**, the Assistant Vice President with the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Multicultural Affairs. These two organizations partnered with five other organizations to bring college students from around the state to discuss issues paramount to minorities in education. The other groups involved were the Student African American Brotherhood/Brother 2 Brother, 100 Black Men of Indianapolis, the Indiana Commission on Hispanic/ Latino Relations, the Indiana Black Expo, USA Funds and of course the hosts at IUPUI.

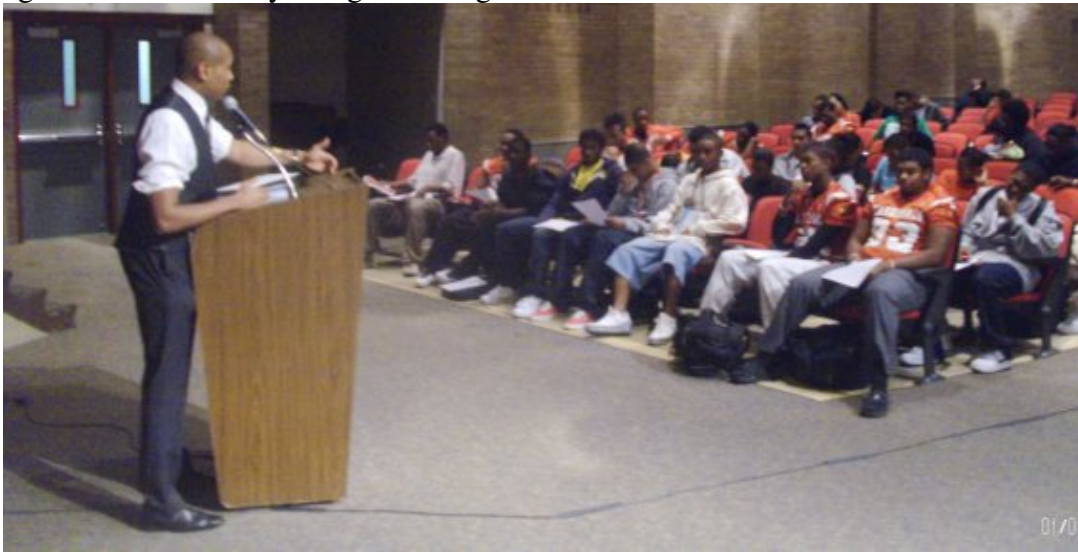
An aggressive agenda was set for the students. After the initial reception, participating college students were split into groups and participated in a Minority Male Research Project being conducted by Dr. Robin Hughes of the **IUPUI School of African American Studies**. During these sessions they were asked a series of open ended questions regarding the minority male experience in higher education. Of central concern were the challenges that were specific to the minority condition. Some effort was also expended to determine how welcome men of color were made to feel on our respective campuses and the things that could be done to support each other in the quest for a degree. Lively group discussions soon followed. Mr. Phillip Seabrook laid out the agenda for the following day. Towards 9:00 pm members adjourned for the evening among much networking and picture taking. SAAB/B2B members and other students returned to their hotels in preparation for day two of the summit.



Phillip Seabrook (far left) poses with statewide members of the Student African American Brotherhood/ Brother 2 Brother Chapters

## James W. Wallace Jr.

Day two was an exciting day for the student participants of the Minority Male Empowerment Summit as they were afforded the opportunity to go to schools in the Indianapolis, IN area and speak to high school and middle school students regarding the issues which affect their lives. Students were sent to four schools in the area. These included Southport High School, School 56, Indy Met Academy and Andrew J. Brown School. The focus was on preparing them for college. The mission was to not only dispel some of the myths regarding college but to encourage the students to excel in their studies. On this day SAAB/B2B members were joined by noted author, activist and public speaker Kevin Powell of Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Powell held the students in rapt attention as he spoke about the importance of education and the need to make the right decisions as they navigate through life.



After words from Mr. Powell the students were separated into groups of 15 and the individual SAAB/B2B members in attendance conducted group discussions for the remaining portion of the visit. The spotlight was on getting the students to be as candid as possible while engaging the students on the issues that were important to them.

Returning to the IUPUI campus for lunch SAAB/B2B members then screened a powerful film called *4 Our Sons*. This documentary discussed the challenges faced by several different men from around the country as they struggled against enormous odds to provide for themselves and their families. The focal point was on the social, economic, personal and political factors which prevented these men from reaching their full potential. The movie also stressed the need for positive male role models in the lives of today's youth. After the viewing there was another discussion among the gathered students regarding the importance of this theme.

## James W. Wallace Jr.

The final portion of the Summit allowed the gathered SAAB/B2B chapters a chance to fellowship together over dinner and discuss the challenges and successes of the individual chapters spread throughout the state. These discussions were vital in that they allowed the SAAB/B2B members to discard processes that have proven ineffective and concentrate our forces on ideas that will allow this student organization to grow as our members reach the ultimate goal of graduation. The Summit was closed out with a stirring poem crafted by SAAB/B2B member Kehinda Pryor entitled "My Brothers' Keeper." The First Annual Minority Empowerment Summit was an insightful, educational and beneficial exercise for not only for the SAAB/B2B member's fortunate enough to attend but for the middle school and high school students who participated as well. Special thanks for funding and assistance for the trip goes to Dr. Ken D. Coopwood, Sr., Director of Diversity and Equity & Assistant to the Chancellor at IU Northwest, Dr. Charles Gary, Director of Student Life and Athletics IU Northwest, Alan Roger Currie, Coordinator for the SAAB/B2B program, Joe Goodman and Kasey Hernandez, the SAAB/B2B Graduate Assistants.



Kehinda Pryor, Phillip Seabrook, James Wallace, Kevin Powell, Hollis Thomas, James Garrett and Joe Goodman pose after delivering a powerful message to the youth at Southport High.

# **James W. Wallace Jr.**

**JAMES** served on the IU Northwest Chancellor Search Committee:

## **Search committee formed to identify new IU Northwest chancellor**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 16, 2009

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. -- A 13-member search and screen committee has been formed to identify finalists for the position of chancellor of Indiana University Northwest, it was announced today (Sept. 16) by IU President Michael McRobbie. The committee, which will meet with McRobbie on Thursday (Sept. 17), will initiate a national search for a replacement for current IU Northwest Chancellor Bruce Bergland, who is retiring after having served as chief executive officer of the Gary, Ind., campus since July 1999.

"I am confident that the search committee we have appointed will find those individuals who will continue the excellent progress IU Northwest has made over the last decade under the very capable leadership of Bruce Bergland," McRobbie said. "I look forward to appointing a new chancellor, who will build upon a foundation of strong academic programs and diversity, and further the campus' involvement in the economic, social and cultural future of the region." IU Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Multicultural Affairs Edwin Marshall will chair the committee, which also includes representatives from the faculty, staff and student body at IU Northwest, as well as from the greater Northwest Indiana community. The committee will recommend a group of finalists to McRobbie for consideration. It hopes to complete its work by spring and has set a goal of having the new chancellor begin his or her term during the 2010-11 academic year.

In addition to Marshall, members of the search committee include:

Garry Aloia, Managing Partner, New State Mortgage Company;  
Member, IUN Advisory Board

Bala Arshanapalli, Professor, Finance; Gallagher-Mills Chair,  
School of Business and Economics, Indiana University Northwest

Linda Delunas, Associate Professor, School of Nursing; Associate  
Dean, College of Health and Human Services, Indiana University  
Northwest

## **James W. Wallace Jr.**

Sharese Dudley, Director, Career Services, Indiana University Northwest

Charles Gallmeier, Professor, Sociology; Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Indiana University Northwest

Audrea Gant-Davis, Head, Circulation/Periodicals/Reserves, Indiana University Northwest Library

Chuck Hughes, Executive Director, Gary Chamber of Commerce

Dorothy Ige, Professor, Department of Communication, Indiana University Northwest

Cynthia O'Dell, Associate Professor, Psychology; Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Ken Schoon, Professor, Science Education; Associate Dean, School of Education, Indiana University Northwest

**James Wallace, President, Student African American Brotherhood; Student, Continuing Studies, Indiana University Northwest**

John Applegate, Vice President for Planning and Policy, Indiana University, *Member Ex Officio, Liaison to the Office of the President*

The firm of Witt/Kieffer will help facilitate the search. More information on the search will be available at

<http://www.iu.edu/~vppp/recruitment/IUNorthwestChancellor.shtml>.

IU Northwest is dedicated to providing higher education to the people of the seven counties in northwest Indiana. Quality and relevance are the hallmarks of IU Northwest's programs. These programs serve the needs of the most diverse, urban and industrialized area of the state. Out of this diversity, IU Northwest strives to create a community dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the value of education.

# James W. Wallace Jr.



## Diversity Works

A Newsletter from the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs



Vice President Marshall at the IU Board of Trustees meeting held at IU Northwest (IUN) in Gary on June 11-12, 2009, speaking with James Wallace Jr., President of the IU Northwest chapter of the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB). Photo credit: Donald D. Jones, IUN

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The [Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs \(DEMA\)](#) is responsible for a diverse array of programs, services, and activities that transcend campus, academic, and administrative boundaries. Our mission is to serve as an effective advocate for underrepresented students, faculty, and staff and to provide programs and services that promote excellence through diversity, equity, and culture at Indiana University.

### Summer/Fall 2009 -- Volume 1 Issue 2

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DIVERSITY WORKS AT IU: What is your unit or department doing to advance diversity and equity at IU? Please send us your stories by e-mail to [dema@indiana.edu](mailto:dema@indiana.edu). Be sure to include "Newsletter" in the subject line.



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### [Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs](#)

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